

Vermont Conference Annual Meeting

April 27 - 28, 2018

Lake Morey Resort, Fairlee, VT

Plenary 1

Friday, April 27, 2018

9:45 am -- Eric Tuper-Giles offers gathering music.

The worship committee tells "The One Story of the Bible."

"... the wages of sin are the death of the dream. ... An inner light keeps alive the hopes of God. God's long suffering love will not let us go....The dream becomes flesh and dwells among us. ... The sick are healed, justice is done, good news is preached, hope is kindled. Christ our liberator has come."

10:06 -- Rev. David Vanderlinde-Abernathy welcomes us to the 223rd annual meeting of the Vermont Conference.

Rev. David Vanderlinde-Abernathy moves that Katelyn McCrae be the Moderator *pro tempore*. It is seconded. No discussion. The motion passes with one nay.

10:08 -- Rev. Katelyn McRae calls the meeting to order.

10:09 -- The Rev. Dr. Lynn Bujnak announces that we have a quorum.

10:10 -- **Rev. McCrae requests that we grant voice without vote to our guests: Susanne Schmidt and Anne Black, Andy Judson and Lindley Kinerk. Christopher Gray (Star Island), Adam Smedberg (Global Ministries), Danielle Watchford (Disabilities Ministries), Betsy Hardy (Vermont Interfaith Power and Light), Tim Hughes (Horton Center) and the Bookstore. It is moved and seconded to grant these guests voice without vote. The vote is passed without discussion, unanimously.**

Rev. McCrae -- Introduces the Annual meeting Planning Committee:

- Ms. Diane Holme
- Rev. David Vanderlinde-Abernathy
- Mr. Jeffrey Tuper giles vice moderator
- Mr. Ned Davis
- Rev. Shawn Bracebridge
- Rev. Mary Kay Schueneman
- Rev. Tracy Weatherhogg
- Rev. L. Bujnak

And our Conference Staff:

- Rev. Dr. Lynn Bujnak
- Rev. Pam Lucas
- Ms. Chari Robinson, office administrator and communications director

10:12 -- A motion is made to accept Document B, "Definitions and Procedures." The motion is seconded. There is no discussion. The motion passes unanimously.

10:13 -- A motion is made to accept Document C, "Covenant for Dialogue." The motion is seconded. The motion passes and the body reads the covenant together.

The Revs. Peter Plagge and Lise Sparrow are nominated to be the scribes for the annual meeting. Rev. McCrae recognizes Doug Carter and Debbie Ingram to be parliamentarian. Moved and seconded. Passes unanimously.

10:17 -- It is moved and seconded that we accept the 2017 Minutes from the Vermont Conference of the United Church of Christ Annual Meeting. There is no discussion. The motion is passed unanimously.

P. Lucas recognizes new pastors to Vermont:

- Rev. Tom Kinder, United Church of Strafford, Sept, 2017
- Rev. Kevin Goldenbogen, Charlotte Congregational Church, September 2017
- Rev. Mark Pitton, Sharon Congregational Church, UCC, October 2017
- Rev. Paul Eyer, Williston Federated Church, October 2017
- Rev. Edward Sunday-Winters, Greensboro UCC, November 2017
- Rev. Josh Simon, Essex Junction, Ordained 12/9/2017
- Rev. Elisa Lucozzi, United Community Church of St. Johnsbury, ordained installed, 12/3
- Rev. Rona Kinsley, to Associate Minister Old Meeting House
- Rev. Devon Thomas, The United Church of Bakersfield, Fairfield, Second Congregational Church of Jeffersonville, and Waterville Union Church
- Rev. Mark Blank, Second Congregational Bennington, January 2018, ordained in Pennsylvania in March 17, 2018
- Rev. Jane Ramos, To Sherburne United Church of Christ, March 2018

Interim Pastors:

- Rev. Adrienne Carr, United Church of Underhill, September
- Rev. Jeffrey Long-Middleton, Bradford Congregational Church, September 2017
- Rev. Brigid Farrell United Church of Thetford, September 2017
- Rev. Bert Marshall to Barre Congregational Church, June, 2017

Transitioning Clergy:

- Rev. Judy Horgan left First Congregational Church of Lyndonville and East Burke to chaplaincy in AZ

- Rev. Holy Ross Noble, to Castleton Federated Church
- Rev. Amanda Lape-Freeberg to Dartmouth Church of Christ, Install May 6 2018
- Rev. Christine Dyke, resigned from Grafton Church to secular work.
- Rev. Jeanne O'bresky resigned from Springfield, to Minnesota
- Rev. James Thomas resigned from VTCUCC to Senior Pastor at Atkinson Congregational Church, NH
- Rev. Mary Kay Schueneman from First Cong. Church Cornwall and Middlebury UMC to Sr. Pastor Portage UCC in Portage MI
- Rev. Kate Maver, resigned Wells River Congregational Church, UCC and First Congregational Church of Newbury to move to church related agency in Ohio, May, 2018

Retiring clergy:

- Rev. Martha Peck, Westmore Community Church, August 2017
- Rev. Norma Drosky from Jamaica Community Church, August 2017
- Rev. Mary Beth Hutchinson, Congregational Church of Rupert , August, 2018
- Rev. Patricia Jackman, Pittsford Congregational Church, UCC, August 2018
- Rev. Ivy Merrill, Christ's Church Saxtons River, February 2018
- Ms.. Margo Marrone, Tyson Congregational Church, April 2018
- Rev. Mary Lee Clark, Second Congregational Church, UCC, Bennington, April 15, 2018
- Rev. David Vanderlinde-Abernathy, Barre Congregational Church, April 22, 2018
- Rev. Gary Lewis, Congregational Church Vergennes, May 6, 2018
- Rev. Pam Lucas

Rev. Andy Nagy-Benson, Chair

Extends a warm welcome to all, especially those who are new. Summing the work of the Board of Directors of the Vermont Conference, Rev Nagy-Benson used the word "flux. The Latin root of the word is "flow." We are in the midst of continuous change. Leadership has definitely swum in the meaning of change. Then Jesse Davis left us last year, then 3 months later, Rev. Pam Lucas wrote a love letter to the conference indicating her intention to leave after the new Associate Conference Minister (ACM) is called. Transitions bring a special kind of disequilibrium. It's difficult. We experience loss. Flux is personal.

And it brings with it a host of logistical issues. In the midst of significant transition, our conference ministers serve our conference incredibly well. I express my deepest thanks to Lynn and to Paum. Also to the personnel committee, ACM search committee, Charri Robinson and Laura Nassau. A round of applause is offered for all.

Last but not least, the members of the board

- Ms. Julie Cadwallader
- Rev. Doug Carter
- Rev. Nancy McHugh

- Mr. Jeffery Tupper-Giles,
- Rev. Amy Pitton, retired
- Rev. David Vanderlinde - Abernathy
- Rev. Kim McKerley
- Mr. Richard Dale
- Mr. William Pike Anderson
- Rev. Lynn Bujnak

We see a need, in the near future for strategic planning. We have contacted David L. Cooperrider at the Center for Appreciative Inquiry. Appreciative Inquiry (AI) is a strength based approach that provides strategies that helps create positive change within organizations. We see this as a year's worth of work for the Vermont Conference, the board of directors, and everyone of our churches. Having works with AI for 20 years, I can say with confidence that we will all receive great rewards from this work. AI puts a magnifying glass over the points of joy. I'm psyched. The board is also all fired up.

10:50 -- Rev. McCrae welcomes Laurie Chipman, chair outdoor ministries, and Tim Hughes, Acting Director, Horton Center. They share the vision of the outdoor ministries at Rockpoint and at Horton Center and they welcome all of us to participate, support and encourage our youth to attend. Check out their facebook page and their website.

11:00 -- Rev. McCrae welcomes Susan (Andy) Jepson and Lindley Kinerk, visitors from UCC Global Ministry. They present in ten minutes their recent missionary trip to Sri Lanka. The worked with the Tamal population where Andy worked at the church and Lindley at the school.

There are many opportunities for ministry projects, large and small.

11:15 -- Susanne Schmidt is our keynote speaker. She is the producer of Moth Radio in Vermont. Before she was a professional storyteller S. Schmidt worked as a licensed clinical mental health professional. I have spent much of my adult life as a storyteller, wanting to open with this line -- "I am preaching to the choir!"

11:55 -- M. Scheuneman -- Speakouts

- Betty Edson -- Peacemakers breakfast is at 4 pm this afternoon!
- Catherine Kitter -- A member of Help Kids India. Helping children and families in S. India, with a vision. Support children 2- 5 years old. I am selling things and raising money.
- Kevin Goldenbogen -- started working recently with VT Gun Violence Task Force. Invite all interested folks to join him for lunch and talk about the problem and resource together.

- Shawn Bracebridge -- Anne Black, PhD., founded an organization called the Warrior Connection. Anne runs six day retreats for veterans suffering post engagement trauma.
- Betsy Hardy -- coordinator of Vermont Interfaith Power and Light working with communities of faith to address global climate change. Invite more of you to join and become member congregations. This year's annual conference in South Burlington. Advocating for wise energy policies and legislation. Give grants to congregations to help make their buildings more energy efficient.
- Doug Carter -- Member of BOD of Vt. Conference. Have you donated to the friends of the Vermont Conference yet? Please do. It helps make it possible for the VTC to do search and call work, church growth and vitality workshops.

12:06 -- Time to break for lunch. First we sing the Caribbean *Hallelujah!*

Plenary 2

Friday, April 27, 2018

6:45 -- Rev. McCrae welcomes the re-gathered body and calls us to order and Rev. M. Schueneman leads the church in evening worship.

7:05 -- Speakouts

- Adam -- CWS -- "it's about helping people live life after tragedy." Please come and see me at my table. We've been helping people after disaster for 72 years.
- Connie Mosier -- For the last 5 years I have served as the clergy representative on the Governor's Advisory Board on Alzheimer's and other Dementias. We work around the state. I'm moving and looking for a replacement. The group meets 4 to 5 times a year. It is fascinating. Please talk to me if you're interested.
- Danielle Watchford -- UCC Disability ministries -- support all settings as we work to include people of all abilities in the life of church. Offering free consultations to church on disability accessibility.
- Lise Sparrow -- I am here in spirit with Arnold and Devon Thomas, who have had to leave. I recall only two moments when I wore my clerical garb that seemed really important to do so. First, the Women's March in Washington and then in our meeting with legislators. But Devon and Arnold wear their clerical garb regularly because it helps protect them a bit from racism and violence.
- Charlotte Gifford -- Deacon at Westminster West, just wrapped up Lilly Endowment grant for clergy renewal. It allowed us to send Rev. Webster-Toleno on sabbatical, and the community to do some important discernment work.

7:17 -- Susanne Schmidt gives the keynote address.

7:47 -- Laura Nassau, Treasurer's Report

2017, the year in review was an Interesting year, because of the departure of Associate Conference Minister, Jim Thomas. Charri Robinson, stepped in to assist in the workload that Jim used to carry. She expanded her responsibilities and assumed much of the financial work Jim did on a daily basis. I would like to personally thank her for keeping the conference operating.

2017 was a surplus year. We had \$648,238 in income and \$636,509 in expenditures. The net result was a surplus of \$11,729.

That surplus was generated by contributions to OCWM-- \$373,385, just over \$3,000 more than budget, and somewhat more than \$6,000 more than 2016. Well done. The conference passed on 30% of that surplus to the National Setting of the UCC.

Per Capita income represents 22% of budget income. This year that was \$18,125 less than budget. Why? Probably a result of churches culling their membership rolls for non-active members, etc.

Friends of the conference income:

The Unrestricted Fund returned 13.84% and ended the year with a balance of \$1,156,236

The budget to actual income variance = \$-1164.

The budget to actual expenditure variance = \$12,893.

Over the past 5 years the Endowment Fund has generated 5%. If we stretch it out to ten years, it's just over 5.5%.

The Investment Committee is currently looking into solar energy, but has still not identified particular areas of investment. The Investment Committee lost Rufus Cushman this year. He was a very special asset to the conference.

In conclusion:

The conference continues to live within its means, funded by your generous support.

I would be remiss if I did not put in a plug for OCWM. Currently the average is about 3% of budget. Imagine what could happen if we did more!

L. Nassau allows for the floor to ask questions. There are none.

8:00 -- Rev. Nagy-Benson

Presents and applauds the support of churches who contribute to OCWM and the 5 for 5 churches.

8:05 -- L. Nassau presents the Budget and the financial resolutions, Document F.

The new spending plan includes support for a new staffing model. That model includes two full time called staff, a Conference Minister and an Associate Conference Minister. In addition, individual consultants will be trained to assist conference ministers in the search and call process. It is estimated that these consultants will reduce cost to the conference, incurred by search and call, by approximately \$23,000.

In addition, the conference will be adding an 8 hour/week accounting position to assist in financial oversight. There will be small cost of living increases and the typical annual increases associated with benefits.

Also included in the budget are funds to send delegates to the biannual General Synod. There are funds included for the board to engage in AI planning work, previously outlined by Rev. Nagy-Benson. We will be paying a Vermont School of Ministry dean. There are no sabbatical funds needed in 2019

The proposed OCWM sharing ratio is the same at 30% to the National Setting and 70% to the Vermont Conference.

What missions and ministries supported are supported by this budget, you ask?

- disaster relief
- pastoral search support
- outdoor ministries, Camp Agape, Horton Center Rockpoint
- Vermont Congregational Home, Newbury
- Vermont Low income Advocacy council
- Support in areas of
 - stewardship
 - church vitality
 - visioning
 - staff providing direct support to churches

Please continue to help by telling the story and by encouraging the strengthening of our mutual covenant. Also, please consider strengthening your personal commitment by becoming a friend of the conference. You might also consider putting together a planned gift for the future.

The Financial Resolutions (Document F) are presented and moved by L. Nassau.

Document F: Resolutions Recommended by the Board of Directors Pertaining to the 2019 Budget

1. That the division of undesignated Basic Support for Our Church's Wider Mission income for 2019 by 70% for the Vermont Conference and 30% for the United Church of Christ beyond Vermont.
2. That the Vermont Conference share with the national setting of the United Church of Christ 70% of any operating budget surplus at the conclusion of the 2019 fiscal year.

3. That the Conference continues to encourage each church to increase its Basic Support for Our Church's Wider Mission by 1% per year of its operating budget expenses; moving toward a full tithe (10%) and beyond if possible.
4. That the 2019 Vermont Per Capita be set at \$12.87. (Note: The association portion of Per Capita is in addition to the Conference amount.)
5. That the churches be encouraged to pay Basic Support for Our Church's Wider Mission and Per Capita at least quarterly.
6. That the Board of Directors be authorized to take funds from the unrestricted reserves for any emergency deficit in 2019.
7. That the Board of Directors be authorized to adjust the 2019 operating budget as unforeseen circumstances require, within the spending limits established in the budget.
8. That the Conference adopt a 2019 Operating Budget of not more the \$652,305 in expense and not less that \$652,305 in income, with the goal of ending 2019 with a balanced budget.

The motion is seconded.

Questions from the floor are entertained.

- Douglas Daire -- Warren UCC, "How is it determined that 70% of excess operating budget is provided to General Synod."
 - L. Bujnak -- At a previous Annual Meeting where we had reduced our sharing with National and other settings of the UCC, because of budget constraints, a resolution was proposed, to this point: if we have an excess, we would send 70% of that excess and keep 30%.
- Carrie Youngblood, Bethany Church, Montpelier - I would like more information about staffing positions. What are these other positions and what does this bookkeeper do?
 - L. Nassau -- The bookkeeping/accounting position is estimated to be a 1 day a week position and affords no benefits. It is around \$8 -9,000 in the budget. We have \$25,000 in the budget for those assisting and deployed to searching churches.
 - L. Bujnak -- The role envisioned for new ACM by the Bd. of Directors, grew out of data that came from listening sessions held around the conference last year, and from our own envisioning the future of the conference. There is a job description posted on our website. It combines some of the tasks Jim did for us, particularly in areas of stewardship and congregational vitality. The intensive individual search and call work that Pam did for us is not covered by the ACM. So, the idea was to train some consultants to help with the work of the search and call. Staff will help start the process and end it. Consultants will work with the nuts and bolts in between.
- B. Marshall -- In the list of paid staff, I didn't see a position that describes Charri's. It should have been there? Or is it somewhere else?
 - L. Nassau -- The next slide shows this.

- Lz Sykas -- Bethany Church, Montpelier -- Are people aware that some investments incorporate people who manufacture guns and weapons. I wonder if our investments have been filtered this way?
 - L. Nassau -- we do practise socially responsible investing and do not invest in alcohol, tobacco, firearms or fossil fuels. We are divested of those kinds of stocks.

**K. McCrae asks for a vote --
The motion is passed unanimously.**

8:26 -- L. Bujnak, presents guidelines for ministerial compensation. You can find the full document on our website.

There are some changes that have been made between 2018 and 19. One of the changes is that there is a box that gives salary ranges based on the size of local congregation. High, Low, and Median. Each year we try to pay attention to the North East Weighted Consumer Price Index. Last year it was 1.7%. The guidelines have been increased by that number. It is important to keep in mind that when the denominational statistics come out about salary by conference -- we are 33rd. Almost near the bottom.

Another change is based on a legal situation that is happening in higher courts that the tax free status of the clergy housing allowance is being challenged successfully in court. It is highly likely that clergy housing will no longer be tax free. An appeal has been filed. So it has been added to the guidelines that churches need to pay attention to this.

Also, important to note these are guideless. Not mandates. The benefits listed here are normative across most of the denomination to remind folks that there is latitude.

We are aware that some church not able to meet the guidelines. But we ask for churches to make commitments toward coming up to the guidelines, or to offer more more time off.

We are also suggesting that you consider encouraging your pastor to take a week off with pay so that they can work as a church camp counselor or a work project mission trip.

The IRS mileage rate is 54.5 per mile. The charitable rate is still 14 cents per mile.

**The ministerial compensation report is moved and seconded. No discussion.
The motion is passed unanimously.**

8:34 -- Pam Lucas presents a report of clergy and other members of the conference who passed away in the past year.

- Rev. A. Bertram Miller, July 15, 1926 - June 22, 2017

- Rev. Alan McCain, March 18, 1939 - August 26, 2017
- Rev. Fred W. Atwood-Lyon, May 1, 1934 - August 27, 2017
- Rev. Donald E. Goff, August 17, 1927 - December 17, 2017
- Rev. Patricia Harwick, June 29, 1943 - January 27, 2018
- Rev. Walter L. Cooley, December 20, 1922 - February 15, 2018
- Rev. Dr. Joel Tibbetts, October 16, 1936 - March 1, 2018
- Rev. Margaret L. Stoddard, July 12, 1922 - March 3, 2018
- Rev. Judith Kinley, November 30, 1942 - April 18, 2018
- Rev. Raymond Foster, May 21, 1937 - April 20, 2018
- Mr. Joseph Jacobs, October 18, 1941 - May 29, 2017
- Mrs. Johanna Harpster, December 17, 1946 - August 21, 2017
- Mr. Rufus Cushman, February 15, 1929 - September 4, 2017
- Mr. Dwight Baker, March 8, 1943 - October 5, 2017

Local parishioners were lifted up individually and a prayer offered.

Plenary 2 is adjourned.

Plenary 3

Saturday, April 28, 2018

8:50 -- Rev. David Vanderlinde-Abernathy calls the body back to order.

Speakouts

- Cleoplace Mukeba, First Congregational Church, Burlington -- The wars in Congo have recently claimed more than 60 millions lives. Violence over mining metals used in technology. I will share in your churches the mission of the Vermont Ibutwa Initiative
- Alyssa Lucozzi, Pator United Community Church -- I work with the Vermont Network Against Domestic & Sexual Violence. I have books for free about relationship status and other resources for help.
- Nancy Fowler, Barre Congregational Church -- I love camp. Horton Center needs cook, and a nurse. Thank you for donations you've made and volunteers for volunteering. You can give a donation today.
- Carol Geske, Charlotte Congregational Church -- I want to give resources about ACES (Adverse Childhood ExperienceS): Resources: Oprah (on 60 minutes), New York Times Article (great overview and science), Resilience Movie (can get through interlibrary loan), you can also talk to me.

- Grace Cleary -- Mallets Bay Congregational Church. We collect food from the Vermont Food Bank and distribute to families breakfast and lunch five days a week in the summer. For \$1, Vermont food bank can provide 10 meals. The Vermont Conference very supportive of this through a grant program.

9:06 -- Morning worship begins with the good ol' hymn, "I Love to Tell the Story" and two completely spellbinding stories. One by Fred Breunig and the Other by Susie Webster-Toleno.

9:33 -- L. Bujnak delivers the state of the Conference Address.

The privilege of being pastor to the pastor is not like anything else.

When I was in seminary, the president, Dr. James McCord was preaching on Book of Revelation. He had a gravelly voice. For first three sessions, he ended by saying "Doom, doom, and utter despair!" I'd like to tell you that he made this brilliant leap on the last sermon to hope, but I honestly don't remember what he said. There are stories we can and should tell, but we also must mind how we tell our stories.

I want to tell you a tale of two conferences.

1. Once upon a time a small UCC conference, caught itself in shrinking deteriorating conditions. In this small conference 25 churches in transition and another 10 had shrunk to size where they could not longer afford a pastor. The conference cared, but privately worried. Sometimes it seemed like doom, doom and utter despair.
2. Once upon a time a small conference in a small state. Diana Butler Bass found herself here while the heavens rained down sleet and snow, rain and ice. The Conference Minister (CM) drove with Diana to Lake Morey. Diana the Wise said to her that, "She believed the churches in northern new england and in the Northwest were the canaries in the coal mine for the progressive church. The CM wrestled with this metaphor. On the one hand the poor bird is drooping and perhaps beyond return. On the other hand, as the CM thought about what is happening, it became clear that the brave churches in this brave little state, had some very important, maybe even essential gifts to share with the rest of God's church. It was an outrageous thought, and it might not ever be believed. But what if it was? God has a strange habit of preferring the least and the last. Examples -- King David, the shepherd King. Mary, the poor girl, who would birth the Son of God. . . . The CM found her way to a new narrative. Several of our churches are growing. some our expanding staff, buildings, starting new ministries. Soon the CMr knew that a ACM of great wisdom would teach us how to understand house churches. In addition, the ACM would train consultants to help with these small churches. What gifts do we, the brave little conference have to share with the world?

We live in a time when experts suggests more and more part time churches, and bivocational ministry will increase. We know what it's like. We have teachers, UPS drivers, poets, electricians. We understand the need for licensed pastors.

Many of us remember when we lost Alan Parker and we remember when the Craftsbury Church was left without a pastor, but someone rose up from within who became licensed and served. We also know the way of being essential parts of being in our communities.

I think in this brave little conference we know how important it is to care for our environment. I know that the UCC churches in Charlotte and Bennington and Thetford Hill, all have found ways to green their buildings and reduce their carbon footprint

We know a lot about needing one another. We need each other. Leading the way for people to get back to having civil discourse.

I read an article some time ago, about how Great Britain appointed a Minister for Loneliness. The US surgeon general identified loneliness as a major cause for cardiovascular disease and depression. When was the last time a powerful story like we've heard this weekend, told at your church? I believe we can lead the way. It will require welcoming change that seems so frightening. Jesus says "I lay down my life for my friends." The reality is that sometimes our brave little churches don't make it. And how does that life get laid down in a way that continues the mission and ministry that so many people have worked so hard to do.

Well the CM felt her heart swelling, and swelling in gratitude for the wise ACM, Pam Lucas, and St. Charri. But also the CM's heart swelled with gratitude for the hours and service for those who have been leaders within this conference. Andy Nagy-Benson, Laura Nassau, and for everyone of these brave little churches and the life of this brave little conference. I do believe if we are the canary in the coal mine, we are also filled with life and vitality that only God can give.

9:55 -- Fred Taylor introduces the resolution on climate change. This resolution is a result of the United States pulling out of the Paris Accord or the Paris Climate Agreement last year. Several leaders in the UCC wrote an emergency resolution and presented it to the General Synod in 2017. We now present this as an opportunity for churches to continue addressing the moral issue around climate change.

We did alter a few things from the original resolution. The Board of Mission rewrote some of the Biblical background. We also added language specific to Vermont, see Line 55 - 57 in particular. The original resolution did call churches to take on the mantle of moral leadership through preaching and proclamation of truth in the public square.

9:57 -- Fred Taylor moves the acceptance of the resolution on "The Earth is the Lord's -- not Ours to Wreck: Imperatives for a anew Moral Era." It is seconded.

(For the text of the resolution: see Appendix at the end of the minutes.)

D. Vanderlinde-Abernathy -- opens the floor to conversation.

Lise Sparrow, Guilford Community Church -- I know that the National setting of the UCC is promoting a concept called Creation Justice and asking churches to make 1000 sermons. Is it a conscious choice to make it a Vermont thing, or would it serve us to connect this with the national move?

- F. Taylor -- Another point I was going to make is that this is an important part, but we didn't know about the National ucc's initiative when we wrote this. It is possible that we could add one be it further resolved to encourage churches to take that further steps.

Bill Twin, Second Congregational Church Bennington -- This resolution most recent in a string of resolutions. The UCC is addressing this across the country. And the feeling is that we are nimble, and Vermont is probably one of the most nimble, and what we are trying to do is to have the church exercise leadership in the general discussion. I feel that Vermont could lead the way, we may be greying, but we have the passion. Please also get involved in Vermont Interfaith Power.

Danielle Watchford -- to piggyback on what L. Bujnak said about us being a canary in the mine, and this coming up in National. I believe that it is important add a line that say that we actively support the National effort.

- K. MCrae -- lines 58-59 saying that we actively affirm this GS resolution.

10:17 -- The resolution is passed unanimously.

10:17 -- Christopher Ashely presenting the Gun Violence Emergency Resolution. Five years ago th VTC created and supported a task force dedicated to reducing gun violence. This year, again there is a tragedy. And this created an opening, the young people created an opening. This year we had a tragedy averted in Fair Haven. The task force started drafting an emergency resolution at that time. Members of the task force were also part of the discussion at the legislature and were witnesses to the debate. Eventually three bills were passed and the governor signed them.

The resolution proposes a series of steps.

1. Calling on Federal lawmakers, to continue work on this issue
2. Thank our legislature and Governor Scott for signing a bill
3. and list further steps congregation can do. -- lines 59 -87.

This is a very difficult issue, we know that. But it will not be going away.

Christopher Ashely moves the resolution. It is seconded.

There are some mistakes in lines 48 -55 that are leftovers from old versions, prior to the passage of the VT Legislature's bill. C. Ashely moves the following text change.

Original

47 cited for domestic assault or under a judge's extreme risk protection order for a
48 person "at-risk", and legislation that bans assault weapons, bump stocks and high-
49 capacity ammunition magazines.

54 of weapons from a person cited for domestic assault or under a judge's extreme risk
55 protection order for a person "at-risk", and legislation that bans assault weapons
56 bump stocks and high-capacity ammunition magazines.

Proposed

47 cited for domestic assault or under a judge's extreme risk protection order for a
48 person "at-risk", and legislation that bans bump stocks and high-
49 capacity ammunition magazines.

54 of weapons from a person cited for domestic assault or under a judge's extreme risk
55 protection order for a person "at-risk", and legislation that bans
56 bump stocks and high-capacity ammunition magazines.

There is no conversation about the amendment.

The amendment is passed unanimously.

Amy Hale, Second Congregational Church of Bennington -- It is good to have a resolution. Perhaps we should also be going after some of the causes -- such as bullying and mental illness.

- C. Ashley -- Bullying is a fraught and large topic. Legislation address domestic violence. But not bullying. It is certainly a topic that the reducing gun violence task force could address. Everyone on th TF thinks that's a good idea.

Kim LaRose -- yes, mental health important. But we have a gun problem first. Children seeing this within the home and the mindset and mentality for valuing human life.

Paul Eyer-- **Proposes an amendment to substitute the word "Support" on line 79 to "Affirm."**

The proposed amendment is seconded.

Doug Carter -- Great catch. Line 84 should be the same. This implies a different kind of support than political.

No further conversation.

The amendment is passed unanimously.

James Merriam -- I speak against a specific passage -- Because of my representation of a rural church, I can't celebrate it. The legislative process is not to be praised. Across this north this

generally felt to be poorly thought out. I'm glad that we removed the word support, but I can't celebrate or affirm with my congregation in good conscience, given the state of discourse in our area.

Mary Kay Schueneman -- I want to propose that someone work with me on an amendment. I grew up in suburban Detroit, where gun violence was a problem long before Columbine. Here's the issue I want to address: gun violence addresses people of color in a different way. I feel that a piece of this needs to address gun violence also through the lens of race.

Mike Marshall, Wells River Church -- speaking for myself and not church. Everyone wants to end these events we've seen happening. The thing is, there are many laws that cover the issues about which people demand action. There is a federal law on the books about who is allowed to have possession of a firearm, sell or transfer. This has not been properly enforced by the US Dept of Justice.

Matthew Wollem-Berens, Chaplain, Porter hosp. -- **Moves to amend the resolution as follows: Strike lines 42 - 43 from the text, placing a period after the word fee on line 41. The motion is seconded.**

I propose this amendment because those in federal prisons are disproportionately black americans, and because the resolution calls for *federal* punishments for gun tracking.

Charlotte Gifford, Westminster West Church--The issue of straw purchasers is important and I think this weakens the kind of legislation we are looking for
Vote -- nays have it. Amendment defeated.

**Fran Weinbaum, Old Meeting House East Montpelier, I move to amend lines 22-23 replacing word churches with the phrase "Places of Worship."
The motion is seconded.**

F. Weinbaum, I feel that synagogues and other houses of worship should be noted.
Amendment passes unanimously.

Carol Calenberg, Morrisville, -- Moves to amend Line 24 by striking the rest of the sentence after the word "society" and adding a period after society.
The amendment passes with a few nays.

After no further comments from the floor a vote is called.

10:51 -- **The amended resolution is declared passed with a few nays and no abstentions.**

10:52 -- Rev. James Kirk -- announces that Rev. Dr. James Cone has passed away this morning.

Plenary 4

Saturday, April 28, 2018

1:30 pm -- Speakouts

- Shawn Bracebridge, Windham Congregational Church -- I'm trying to reinvigorate the association. May 20 (Pentecost Sunday) at 4pm in Springfield, offering a reverse tenebrae with Maren Tirabassi. You are welcome to attend.
- David Reynolds, United Community Church, St. Johnsbury -- I am proud of progressivity of the UCC. UCC has advocated for Obamacare and still trying to help it. Health Insurance at the UCC Pension Board has an exclusion for a pre-existing conditions. I am concerned about this. This issue seems to be controlled by the UCC Pension Board and we have no control over it. I just raise that for your awareness. It is disturbing.
- Holly Friat, church school director at Barre Congregational Church -- I have two stories. One is mine and one not mine. When I was a kid we occasionally had bomb threats at our school and these were great, because during evacuation we got sent to the bombardier plant where the workers would buy us orange soda and m&m's.

Other story: Steve Pappas of the Barre paper, has a mentee and once when he was visiting they had a secure the building. He said in his story that there was only silence after the call. No chit-chat, just fear and silence. The drill lasted 10 minutes. No one knew this was a drill. It was terrifying. There were tears. There was shortness of breath. And this is the second time for this drill since September.

This is the reality for many kids. We need to be aware that this is shaping who they become as adults.

- Katelyn McCrae, pastor Richmond, Congregational Church -- please write down Feb. 23 - March 4, 2019. We travelled last year to Costa Rica, where we built two homes in a week (\$6k per house). You are invited to come with us next winter to build homes.
- Mary Kay Schueneman -- I would like to extend my thanks to all of you in the Vermont Conference. This is my last speakout. My passions for ministry was reignited in the Vermont Conference. I head back home to the land of "pop" and the original Sanders, ice cream and bumpy cake. Thank you all for your love and your grace.
- Susanne Schmidt -- Thank you so much for welcoming me into your community. The company that I have is doing a production on Friday night at the Barre Opera House. Free tickets to anyone at part of conf. susanne@themoth.org

1:50 -- Pam Lucas, Celebrations of Ordinations and Anniversaries

20+ Years of ordination

Ordained 1998

- Rev. Cynthia Batten
- Rev. Mary Brownlow
- Rev. Rona Kinsley
- Rev. Susan Cooke Kittredge
- Rev. Gordon McClellan
- Rev. Andy Nagy-Benson
- Rev. Diana Scholl
- Rev. Mary Kay Schueneman

Ordained in 1993

- Rev. Deborah Ingram
- Rev. Douglas Moore
- Rev. Alison Jacobs

Ordained 1988

- Rev. William Bartholomew
- Rev. Carrie Bail

Ordained 1983

- Rev. Lynn Bujnak
- Rev. Nancy G. Devor

Ordained 1978

- Rev. Barbara Purinton

Ordained 1973

- Rev. Ed. Hilbert, Jr.

Ordained in 1968

- Rev. Fred Edmonds
- Rev. Hal C. Miller III
- Rev. Philip Nelson

Ordained 1958

- Rev. Allen Myrick

Ordained in 1948

- Rev. Louise Drake

Thank you for 730 years of ministry!

Also, the Morrisville Congregational Church and the Puffer United Methodist Church became the United Church of Morrisville, Feb 4, 2018.

Katelyn McCrae -- Please remember to fill out the email evaluation. It always helps.

2:00 -- Susanna Greifen offers the Nominating Report

Thank you for

- another grace filled year
- we are grateful for your willingness to serve the wider church
- And for those whose prayerful discernment led to a faithful not this year
- For those who retire from assignments this year, those continuing, and those taking up new responsibilities

We have some openings that remain on the slate:

- Vice moderator on Board of Directors, (but cannot be taken from the floor.)
- Annual meeting planning Committee, would be willing to take nominations from the floor
- Disaster Response Team, Grafton Orange, Southwest, Washington, Windham Union and Windsor Orange reps. Please find someone on your association who could do this and be trained.
- General Synod delegates -- we have time for nominations from Addison, Northeast, Windsor-Orange
- Still seeking chair and vice chair for the Dept of Stewardship and Finance

S. Greifen moves the slate of Officers and Board members. The motion is seconded.

The slate of Officers and Board Members is reproduced in the appendix.

Discussion:

Rev. A. Nagy-Benson, Middlebury United Church of Christ --Two different slides have on for two different terms for the same position.

- S. Greifen -- this was a mistake. He is not on the slate.

Nomination of the slate of officers and board members passes unanimously.

K. McCrae leads us in the Commissioning of Elected Leaders.

2:17 -- D. Vanderlinde - Abernathy presents gifts to our guests and other dignitaries.

- Susanne Schmidt, keynote speaker. Round of applause again, and chocolate!
- Eric Tupper-Giles, musician. Round of applause and a small token of our appreciation.
- Katelyn McCrae, moderator *pro tem.*, She has worked tirelessly for this annual meeting, going way beyond being the chair of the Planning Committee. Round of applause and gift.

2:21 -- D. Vanderlinde - Abernathy hands the gavel over to Jeffrey Tuper-Giles. He has been excited about this. For Jeffrey and me, this is pretty sweet on a lot of levels.

J. Tuper-Giles - David is a leader for me who stands next to me and not in front of me. I hope to be that person for someone else that day. Thank you David, for being a friend, a pastor, and someone I hope to emulate. How wonderful it is to receive this gavel from you. I will make you proud of the disciple you've created.

2:25 K. McCrae -- more thank you's.:

Thanks to all of you who made this come together in anyway.

- in particular the members of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee are applauded
 - Tracy Weatherhogg
 - Mary Kay Schueneman
 - Ned Davis
 - Shawn Bracebridge
 - David Vanderlinde-Abernathy
 - Jeffrey Tuper-Giles
- Ann Vivian and Seth who did tech and powerpoint.
- Thanks to scribes, parliamentarian and musicians

2:30 -- The meeting is adjourned following the Closing Worship.

Appendix Resolutions and The Slate of Officers and Board Members

Resolutions as passed:

TITLE: RESOLUTION ON “THE EARTH IS THE LORD’S – NOT OURS TO WRECK: IMPERATIVES FOR A NEW MORAL ERA:” A RESOLUTION OF AFFIRMATION AND ACTION BASED ON THE GENERAL SYNOD RESOLUTION BY THE SAME NAME.

SUBMITTED BY the Department of Missions Council on recommendation of the Creation Justice Task Force.

PREAMBLE: This Emergency Resolution passed at General Synod 31 with 97% of the vote, and with the endorsement of the Vermont UCC Board of Directors, but did not come before the full membership of the Vermont Conference. Therefore, the Conference Department of Missions is introducing this resolution of support and action with the conviction that it’s important for the conference as a whole to have the opportunity to consider and vote on it. (Text of the original resolution in italics and boldface.)

BIBLICAL BACKGROUND: Our sacred texts often celebrate the awesome majesty and beauty of Creation and of the natural world, its life-giving power and its special status as the handiwork of God. Those ancient writers, living long before the industrial and technological revolutions, would never have imagined our whole planet being dominated violently, beaten into submission, and pushed to the brink of ruin by human beings with modern-era machines and motives. From Genesis 1; the Ten Commandments; through the Sabbatical Year and Jubilee in Leviticus 25; the incredible Creation poem in the Book of Job (38 – 41); hymns of awe and praise for the created world in the Psalms (8, 19, 23, 33, 104) – the Earth in the Hebrew Scriptures is a precious gift from God, to be respected and cared for by humanity. Jesus in the Gospels speaks often of God’s call for justice and compassion among us, which cannot be fully realized when millions of people are suffering or at risk due to the catastrophic effects of climate change – rising sea levels, famines, severe weather events, global warming, and increasingly desperate competition for shifting or dwindling resources. It’s hard to see how we can love God (Deuteronomy 6:5), love our neighbor as ourselves (Leviticus 19:18; Mark 12:31), love one another (Romans 13:8), and practice a life of love (I Corinthians 13), while wantonly and willfully destroying the Earth on which we all live.

TEXT OF THE MOTION: (Items in bold italics are from the text of the original Synod 31 Resolution.)

WHEREAS the leaders of over 190 countries have signed the Paris Climate Accord, acknowledging the critical role every country must play if the life-sustaining climate of the earth is to continue to sustain life as we have always known it;

WHEREAS the mayors of 30 American cities, the governors of numerous states and leaders of hundreds of American companies have publicly committed the institutions

they lead to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in compliance with the Paris Climate Accord;

WHEREAS over the past 50 years the UCC, along with religious leaders from other faiths and denominations, have issued countless statements on the goodness of Creation and our call to act as responsible stewards, all of which has been an insufficient witness;

WHEREAS the Core Purpose of the United Church of Christ states (in part): "... we serve God in the co- creation of a just and sustainable world as made manifest in the Gospel of Jesus Christ,"

WHEREAS this historic moment provides Christian communities with a powerful opportunity to bear witness to the sacredness of God's Creation and the urgent call to preserve it, and responding to this call expresses the new mission initiative of the UCC known as the three great loves, one of which is love of creation;

WHEREAS the overwhelming consensus of the international scientific community is that Climate Change threatens the integrity of Creation and the well-being of future generations, and is to a significant degree caused by human activity;

WHEREAS the disruptions of the climate are in part responsible for the increasing devastations and human suffering the world has seen recently from hurricanes, wildfires, droughts, floods and famines, and therefore give urgency to the climate crisis and the challenges it poses for human well-being;

WHEREAS the Paris Climate Accord recognizes the extent to which these impacts fall disproportionately on those living in poverty and the least developed nations, and those least responsible for the emission of greenhouse gases, and are caused disproportionately by the consuming life-style of our nation and others most developed;

WHEREAS, the Thirty-first General Synod of the United Church of Christ raised its prophetic voice regarding the urgency of healing the climate of the earth, our home and God's gift for the future of all life, both human and all other life,

WHEREAS many churches in the Vermont Conference have already demonstrated their power to effect change, by taking strong and creative actions, and whereas more such actions will be needed to move us toward a sustainable future;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the churches of the Vermont Conference actively affirm this GS Resolution, and commit themselves to its urgent call to study, preaching, prophetic witness and action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that individuals in the Conference use their influence at the local, state and national level, to hold our leaders in government, business and society accountable, and to raise their voices as calls to action through their votes, letters and their public witness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the churches and pastors of the Vermont Conference UCC will engage in the following imperatives as we seek to initiate a new moral era:

- Let us commit to making decisions of integrity in our energy choices, even as we commit to hold our political leaders accountable to do the same.
- Let our communities of faith be bold and courageous as we address one of the greatest moral challenges that the world has ever faced.
- Let us commit to resist all expansion of fossil fuel infrastructure and demand new sources of renewable energy that are accessible to all communities.

April 13, 2018

1 **An Emergency Resolution To Reduce Gun Violence**

2 Class VI, Emergency, Class I Social Action

3 Submitted by: The Vermont Conference Task Force on Reducing Gun Violence

4 Contact: Christopher Ashley, Chair (christopher.Ashley8@gmail.com)

5 Whereas Jesus commanded us to love and respect one another: (John 15:12, "This
6 is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you." Matthew 5:9,
7 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.", Mark 12:31,
8 "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Luke 6:27-31, "Love your enemies. Do to
9 others as you would have them do to you.")

10 Whereas Jesus demonstrated this love by commanding us to take care of the least
11 among us: Matthew 25:40, ("Truly I tell you, just as you did it to the least of these
12 who are members of my family, you did it to me.")

13 Whereas Jesus recognized a special role for children. Mark 10:13-17 (When Jesus
14 saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and
15 do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.)

16 Whereas Jesus told us to follow the commandments and to not commit murder:
17 Mark 10:18, ("You shall not commit murder.")

18 Whereas an average of over 30,000 Americans die each year as a result of gun
19 violence in accidents, suicides, and murders.

20 Whereas in Vermont during the years 2011-2016 a total of 420 people died as a
21 result of gunshot wounds

22 Whereas shootings occur in all locations across our nation: homes, schools,
23 ~~churches~~ **Places of Worship**, nightclubs, parking lots, movie theaters, hospitals, and target
all members
24 of society. ~~... women, men, blacks, whites, gays, straights, people of every faith, and~~
25 ~~particularly children~~

26 Whereas in 2017 the CDC estimates that 136 children and teens were killed or
27 wounded each week by gun violence in the US

28 Whereas since the Columbine High School shooting in 1999, gun violence has
29 occurred in 164 schools and over 135,000 children have been exposed to it
30 according to the Washington Post

31 Whereas our faith as followers of Jesus calls on us to stop sitting silently by while
32 this violent plague destroys countless lives and families, and wounds many schools
33 and communities

34 Therefore be it resolved that the Vermont Conference, United Church of Christ
35 through its Reducing Gun Violence Task Force and Conference Minister will contact
36 Federal Officials: President Trump, Senator Leahy, Senator Sanders, and
37 Representative Welch and ask those officials to support legislation which would: ban
38 assault-style and military-style weapons, bump stocks, and high-capacity
39 ammunition magazines; require a criminal background check for every gun sold in
40 America and robustly fund and support a national background check system and
41 process that is comprehensive, efficient, and requires only a modest fee; and make
42 gun trafficking a federal crime, with real penalties for “straw purchasers” (those who
43 arm criminals).

44 And be it further resolved that the Vermont Conference, United Church of Christ,
45 will contact Gov. Scott and thank him for supporting legislation requiring universal
46 background checks in Vermont, the temporary removal of weapons from a person
47 cited for domestic assault or under a judge’s extreme risk protection order for a
48 person “at-risk”, and legislation that bans ~~assault weapons~~, bump stocks, and high-
49 capacity ammunition magazines.

50 And be it further resolved that the Vermont Conference, United Church of Christ
51 acknowledges with appreciation that the Vermont Legislature brought these issues
52 to a vote, and that the Vermont Conference, UCC thank the Legislators who voted in
53 favor of: requiring universal background checks in Vermont, the temporary removal
54 of weapons from a person cited for domestic assault or under a judge’s extreme risk

55 protection order for a person “at-risk”, and legislation that bans ~~assault weapons,~~
56 bump stocks, and high-capacity ammunition magazines.

57 And be it further resolved that the VT Conference, United Church of Christ
58 recommends the following possible actions to both congregations and individuals:

59 -Pray and reflect on your own emotions and reactions to gun violence:
60 remember to care for people who have been directly affected by violence; resist
61 the urge to demonize others, even those we disagree with, and refuse to be
62 overwhelmed by the magnitude of the problem.

63 -Re-energize the church to be an instrument of peace; be inspired to action by
64 those who have taken small steps toward peace.

65 -Hold a dialog within your congregation regarding gun violence issues. The
66 VT Conference’s Task Force to Reduce Gun Violence has resources to support
67 this effort; we are happy to consult with you.

68 -Host a Bible study on violence. The UCC recommends:
69 Faith vs Fear: <http://www.uccfiles.com/pdf/faith-vs-fear-bible-study.pdf>

70 -Check out the resources available on the VT Conference UCC website, under
71 the DOM domain on the VT Conference’s Task Force to Reduce Gun Violence
72 webpage.

73 -Visit the UCC website and learn about the resolutions approved by UCC

74 National Synods:

75 2017: On Recognizing and Studying Gun Violence as a Public Health

76 Emergency

77 1995: Resolution on Guns and Violence

78 A variety of resources are available on the UCC website.

79 ~~Support~~ **Affirm** Vermont Legislators and Senators, and Governor Scott for their
80 backing of gun violence prevention bills in the 2018 legislative session against
81 the push-back that the gun lobby has promised to bring to to bear. If you need
82 help identifying state leaders who supported the legislation, please check with
83 the VT Conference’s Task Force to Reduce Gun Violence.

84 -**Support Affirm** responsible organizations involved with this issue, like GunSenseVT,
85 Americans for Responsible Gun Use, and Sandy Hook Promise.

86 -Ask your Chief of Police or Sheriff to hold an informational session on the safe
87 storage of firearms.

Board of Directors	Term	Name
Position		
Moderator	2018-2019	Jeffry Tuper-Giles
V. Moderator	2018-2019	
Treasurer	2017-2018	Laura Nassau
Chair & Addison	2017-2020	Rev. Andrew Nagy-Benson
Champlain	2016-2019	Julie Cadwallader Staub
Grafton-Orange-Sullivan	2018-2019	Rev. Kate Maver
Northeast	2016-2019	Rev. Doug Carter
Southwest	2018-2021	
Washington	2015-2021	Rev. Nancy McHugh
Windham Union	2017-2020	Dick Dale
Windsor-Orange	2016-2019	Rev. Kim Mckerley
Past Chair	2018-2019	Rev. Rona Kinsley
Personnel Committee	Term	Name
	2015-2021	Rev. Martha Peck
	2016-2019	Jeremy Schrauf
	2017-2020	Rev. Peter Plagge, Chair
Representative from BoD		
Nominating Committee	Term	Name
	2015-2020	Rev. Susanna Griefen, Chair
	2014-2019	Sally Ann Silfies
	2014-2019	Rev. Jay Sprout
	2018-2021	Rev. Elisa Lucozzi
Annual Mtg. Planning Committee	Term	Name
	2017-2020	Rev. Shawn Bracebridge
	2017-2020	Ned L. Davis
	2018-2021	Rev. Amanda Swoyer
	2018-2021	Rev. Jeremy Kirk
	2018-2021	
Disaster Response Ministries		
	2017-2020	Rev. Adrienne Carr
Addison Assoc.	2017-2019	Carol Washington
Champlain	2018-2021	Rev. Barbara Purinton
Grafton-Orange		
Northeast	2018-2021	Rev. Bruce Comiskey
Southwest		

Washington
Windham Union
Windsor-Orange

Open and Affirming Consultant

Jeffrey Tuper-Giles

Convocation Committee

Name

Rev. Elissa Johnk
Rev. Susan McKnight
Rev. Elisa Lucozzi
Rev. Doug Carter
Rev. Kathy Clark
Rev. Pam Lucas

**Ministerial Standing
and Standards
Committee**

Name

2017-2021	Patricia Richardson
2017-2021	Rev. Lee Moore
2018-2021	Robert Swartz
2018-2021	Bonnie Stevens
2017-2020	Rev. Jared Hamilton
2014-2020	Rev. Roger Daly
2014-2020	Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola
2016-2020	Ms. Alice Kitchel
2016-2019	Rev. Robin Junker-Boyce
2016-2019	Rev. Cordelia Burpee
2017--2019	Sally Ann Silfies

Department of Mission

Name

Chair	2015-2021	Rev. Bert Marshall
V. Chair	2014-2020	Jeanne Zammataro
	2017-2019	Department Council
	2016-2019	Rev. Rob Noble
	2014-2017	Fred Taylor
<u>Addison Association</u>	2017-2020	Rev. Mary Brownlow
Champlain	2018-2019	MaryLou DeCosta
Northeast	2018-2019	Alyssa May
<u>Southwest</u>		

Washington 2015-2021
Windham Union 2016-2019
Windsor-Orange 2016-2019

Theresa Lever
Rev. Lise Sparrow
Rev. Kim Mckerley
Rev. Lynn Bujnak

2018-2019

**Vermont Low Income Advocacy
Representative
Esther Farnsworth**

Global Ministries Committee
Rev. Kim Mckerley
Theresa Lever
Summer Lunch Program
MaryLou DeCosta
Grace Cleary

General Synod Delegates

Addison
Champlain 2016-2019
Northeast
Southwest 2017-2019
Washington 2017-2019
Windham Union 2019-2021
Windham Union. Youth 2019-2021
Windsor-Orange 2019-2021

Synod Delegates

Devon Lee Thomas

Rev. John Weatherhogg
Jeffry Tuper-Giles
Dr. Cheri Brodhurst
Yvonne Harrison

***Department of
Stewardship
and Financial
Development***

Finance Committee
2011-2020
2018-2021
2017-2020
Treas.

Rev. Richard White
Nancy Zorn
Hal Drury
Laura Nassau

Investment Committee
2016-2019
2015-2021
2016-2019
Treas.

Jonathan Farrell
Rev. Mark Mendes
Rev. David Andrews
Laura Nassau

Related Organizations

Vermont Ecumenical Council and Bible Society

2017-2020

Roy V. Hill II

Vermont Congregational Home, Inc. (Atkinson Residence Home for the Retired)

Name

2016-2019

Rev. Cynthia Batten

2017-2020

Virginia Fuller